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cont. a receptacle connector coupled to the ADSL filter by a second set of electrical conductors,

B wherein the interface adaptor is coupled via the plug connector to an external telephone network at a network interface device.

Please add the following claims:

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Sub 34 15. (Newly Added) The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the data terminals comprise lugs.

16. (Newly Added) The interface adapter of claim 14, wherein the data terminal comprises lugs.

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1-14 have been rejected. Claims 15 and 16 are newly added. Claims 1, 9 and 13 are independent claims from which claims 2-8, 10-12 and 14 respectively depend, directly or indirectly. Newly added claim 15 depends from claim 1 and newly added claim 16 depends indirectly from claim 13.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the corrected drawings filed May 22, 2002 have been approved by the Examiner. Formal corrected drawings are being filed herewith.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ismail (US Patent No. 4,362,905). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-12 are patentable for the reasons set forth below.

Ismail does not disclose or suggest "a plurality of electrical conductors extending into the interior region of the adapter through the entrance face of the housing, the electrical conductors coupled to a splitter" as recited in Applicant's amended claims 1 and 9. Because Ismail does not disclose or suggest "a plurality of electrical conductors

extending into the interior region of the adaptor through the entrance face of the housing, the electrical conductors coupled to a splitter” as required by Applicant’s claim 1, from which claims 2-8 directly or indirectly depend, and as required by claim 9, from which claims 10-12 directly or indirectly depend, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Claims 13-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bell (U.S. Patent No. 5,930,340). It is respectfully submitted that claims 13-14 are patentable for the reasons set forth below.

Bell discloses a voice (low band pass) filter coupled between the internal telephone wire network and a voice device (column 6, lines 25-27) and a second filter (high band pass filter) coupled between the telephone wire network and the data device (column 6, lines 27-29). Hence, a separate filtering device (either a low band pass filter device for a voice device or a high band pass filter device for a data device) is required for each telephone, fax machine, computer or printer connected to the internal network.

In contrast, Applicant’s amended claim 13, from which claim 14 depends, recite an interface adapter comprising a plug connector and a receptacle connector coupled to just one filter. The interface adaptor is coupled to the external telephone network (at the network interface device) via the plug connector. Thus only one device is required for all of the telephones, fax machines, computers and printers, etc. connected to the internal telephone wire network. By connecting Applicant’s interface adaptor to the network interface device (where the internal telephone network connects to the external telephone network), the need for an adaptor containing either a low or high band-pass filter at each terminating device is eliminated. Thus claims 13 and 14 are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the 102(b) rejection of claims 13 and 14.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **Version with markings to show changes made.**

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 1, 9 and 13 were amended as follows:

1. (Amended) An interface adapter, comprising:
 - a housing that defines an interior region of the adaptor and an exterior region, the housing having an entrance face;
 - a plurality of electrical conductors extending into the interior region of the adaptor through the entrance face of the housing, the electrical conductors coupled to a splitter;
 - a plug connector coupled to a first subset of the electrical conductors, the plug connector located in the exterior region; and
 - a receptacle connector coupled to a second subset of the electrical conductors, the receptacle connector being accessible from the exterior region to receive a compatible plug connector.

9. (Amended) A method for installing an asymmetrical digital subscriber line (ADSL) interface, comprising:
 - providing an interface adapter, comprising:
 - a housing that defines an interior region of the adapter and an exterior region, the housing having an entrance face;
 - a plurality of electrical conductors extending into the interior region of the adaptor through the entrance face of the housing, the electrical conductors coupled to a splitter;
 - a first plug connector coupled to a first subset of the electrical conductors, the first plug connector located in the exterior region; and
 - a first receptacle connector coupled to a second subset of the electrical conductors, the first receptacle connector being accessible from the exterior region;
 - inserting the first plug connector into a compatible receptacle connector; and
 - inserting a compatible plug connector into the first receptacle connector.

13. (Amended) An interface adapter, comprising:
- an asymmetrical digital subscriber line (ADSL) filter;
 - a plug connector coupled to the ADSL filter by a first set of electrical conductors;
 - and
 - a receptacle connector coupled to the ADSL filter by a second set of electrical conductors,
- wherein the interface adaptor is coupled via the plug connector to an external telephone network at a network interface device.

Claims 15 and 16 were added:

15. (Newly Added) The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the data terminals comprise lugs.
16. (Newly Added) The interface adapter of claim 14, wherein the data terminal comprises lugs.